Fiscal Deficit

4095. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the fiscal deficit was comparatively lower from April to December this year as compared to the previous financial year;

(b) if so, what were the factors that have contributed to the restriction of deficit; and

(c) what are the overall expectations towards the end of the financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND RAO VITHOBA ADSUL) : (a) and (b) Fiscal deficit during April—December, 2002 was 64% of BE as against 77% of BE during the corresponding period last year. This was achieved as expenditure, as percentage of budget estimate, was maintained at the same level even as revenue receipts and non-debt capital receipts were higher during April-December, 2002, as compared to last year.

(c) According to Revised Estimates 2002-2003, fiscal deficit is estimated to be 5.9% of GDP.

Pending cases in Debt Recovery Tribunals

4096. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY : Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total number of Debt Recovery Tribunals set up in the country and which are operational as on date;

(b) what is the total number of cases pending as on December, 2002;

(c) what is the rate of disposal of cases by the DRT's; and